



Communiqué
La Societe des 40 Hommes et 8 Cheveux
Grande Voiture du Missouri



March 2008 - Grand Chef de Gare Leslie (Grant) Willis, Jr - L'Editeur Terry Lanning

The Grand Chef Sez

I attended Voiture 130's Washington's Birthday Party, which as usual was a lot of fun. Department Commander Marvin once again was the auctioneer adding some good times to the event. The food was once again cooked by the ladies and was superb. I would encourage everyone to try and make this event next year.

This month we find Voiture's 333 and 1379 reaching 100% or more in membership. We are head down the stretch needing 196 to achieve 100% membership in the Grand. We have a few Voiture's that need to start a full court press as March is upon us.

A reminder to get the names of any PG's you may be bring to the Spring Wreck to Conducteur John Partin. If you would like to participate in the Ritual please let the Conducteur know and he will assign you a job.

On a sad note, I must write a little something about my good friend, Grande Correspondant Jerry Castulik who passed away February 24, 2008. Jerry will be missed by many on the Local, Grand and National level. Jerry Castulik served his Legion Post, his District,

Department, Voiture Local, Grande and Nationale in many capacities, but more recent as The Grande Correspondant for the Grande du Missouri. I guess this is the saddest part when you lose someone you have come to depend on. At this time I have appointed Terry Lanning to fill the vacancy of Grande Correspondant. Over the next few weeks Terry and I will be going through papers, banking accounts, and other things to make sure the Grande keeps running smoothly.

Let's all have fun this year

**Sous Grand
Correspondants Notes**

Each of the Directeurs should write at least one article for the Grand Newsletter. Articles are due by the last day of the month. The up coming months assigned is:

April 2008 – Voiture Activities Directeur
– Ralph Turner
April 2008 – Child Welfare Directeur
– John Neger

Directeurs and Voitures can email me their articles, announcements, or anything of interest to t_lanning@charter.net, or mail it to 2045 Granada Dr., Florissant, MO 63033.

As the Grand Chef de Gare said in his article with Jerry Castulik's passing Terry Lanning will be assuming the Grand Correspondants job. It will be hard to fill Jerry's shoe's. Terry Lanning will continue to also handle the Sous Correspondants job. If anyone has any items for either the Grand Correspondant or the Sous Correspondant then mail them to Terry Lanning. Address is listed on the prior page. Phone number is (314) 839-2032, cell (314) 640-7597.

Editors note: I will put in the Grande newsletter any thoughts or opinions that anyone has on any topic, as long as it is relevant to the Grande. Sometimes the lack of space in a particular issue will dictate when it will be published.



**UPCOMING
DATES**

- Spring Wreck and Grand Cheminot 3/28-3/30/08 at Holiday Inn Wentzville
 - Voiture's 333 2nd Annual Banquet 4/18/08 at VFW Sedalia
 - Southland Dixie Promenade at Pascagoula, MS April 23 – 26, 2008
 - Central States Promenade at Oklahoma City, OK May 1-3, 2008
 - Truman Day May 7 & 8, 2008 at Independence, MO
-

The Grande du Missouri web site is at: grandedumissouri.com

If anyone has anything they want to add or comments on the web site send it to Robert Emery at his e-mail address remery18@comcast.net and copy Terry Lanning at t_lanning@charter.net.

Congratulations to Tony Gallagher, Voiture 333, for his appointment as the National Directeur Public Relations.

**Grand Organizer
Chairman – Virgil Morice**

I hope that every Voyageur knows that the Grand Organizer and his two Sous are responsible for the organization of new Voitures Locaux or the reinstatement of suspended Voitures Locaux within our Grande Voiture. If there are any voyageurs that know of any Legion members in the area of Louisiana, Mo. that would like to form a Voiture. Please contact myself or one of my Sous Grand Organizers. The Sous Grand Organizers are James Whitfield 17809 E. 29th St. S., Independence, Mo. 64057-2660, Phone # 816-350-2190 and Thomas Hanks, 11852 Sioux Point Dr, Ste Genevieve, Mo. 63670, Phone # 573-483-2987.

Sous Grand Directeur Special Awards (Law & Order) Jack Fink had a lung operation in December and has been in the hospital since. He is on a respirator and they are trying to wean him off of it. Jack has shown some improvement but still has a long way to go. Keep him in your thoughts and prayers.

Voiture 333 2nd Annual Banquet
On Friday, April 18 beginning at 6 p.m., Voiture 333, Forty & Eight will be holding its 2nd annual banquet promoting patriotism and raising funds for nursing scholarships and flags for school children.

This year it will again be held at the VFW Hall in Sedalia on 18 April 2008. Tickets are only \$16 per person and includes a

night of great food and entertainment. Keynote speaker will be Dave Rabius of Indianapolis, Indiana, who is national correspondent of the 40 & 8. In addition Grant Willis, Missouri State Commander for the 40 & 8, Mrs. Pat Kerr, Ombudsman for Veterans of Missouri and Sedalia Mayor Bob Wasson will be speaking.

Mr. Bob (AKA Mr. Ragtime) will be on the keyboard. Mrs. Mickie Gaertner will deliver an inspirational Red Skelton speech; our own Greg Katzing will render the National Anthem plus additional surprises will be featured. Only 200 tickets will be available for this exciting event. Please place your order now.

Payment is due by April 5.

To order tickets call 660-287-3812

Tony Gallagher, Commander

Below is a letter that Voyageur Allen Schultz sent to Voiture Nationale. This is Allen's personal opinion.

Fellow Voyageurs,

I am taking time today to express my opinion on the resolution concerning membership to be voted on at the Nationale Promenade in September. I was invited to join the 40&8 twelve years ago. I was active in the American Legion with Color/Honor Guard activities and supporting the Lounge. When approached, it was explained to me that being invited to join the 40&8 was an honor only bestowed upon the elite of the American Legion because the organization was the "Honor Society" of the Legion. I was very honored to be considered and accepted. I became active in the 40&8 first taking the position as Correspondant and taking a Grande position for a year in Missouri. I had heard of the strained relationship between the American Legion and the 40&8. I was told that the main issue was the refusal of the 40&8 to consider female

American Legion members for membership. Locally, Voiture #1541 du Missouri has an outstanding relationship with the local post. Each post donates their halls free of charge for one event per year for our annual fundraisers. So, when the 40&8 changed the Constitution to allow female American Legion members to become 40&8ers, I assumed that the strained relationship would begin to repair itself. Apparently there was more going on than I knew. I have heard that the Nationale Officers attempted to get a meeting with American Legion but were turned down. I recognize that a problem still exist. However, when I read the proposed resolution, I feel this can only deepen the rift. For those of you who haven't heard, Nationale is attempting to change membership requirements to where you don't even have to be a member of the American Legion to be a 40&8er. Every new member I have ever recruited accepted the invitational to join because they would be considered a member of the "Honor Society" of the American Legion. I feel this resolution is a slap in the face of all of us who have been both loyal 40&8ers and Legionnaires. I fear we will lose far more members than we will gain. I can only speak for my Locale about there have already been grumbling that if this resolution passes, they will drop their 40&8 membership. Also, word has made its way back to the various Legion post officers and they are displeased and I fear we may lose our hall privileges. In closing, if this resolution passes I am concerned that it will do more harm to membership stats than good. I encourage every Locale to bring this to every voyageur and get the feedback to your Grande Chef de Gare prior to the Nationale Promenade in September.

By Allen Schulz,
Correspondant Voiture #1541

Come to the Grande Spring Wreck and have some fun. Come and see what you are missing.

PG's



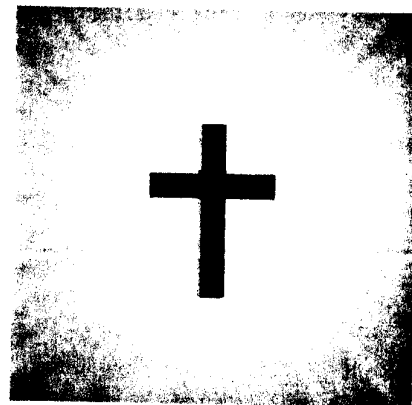
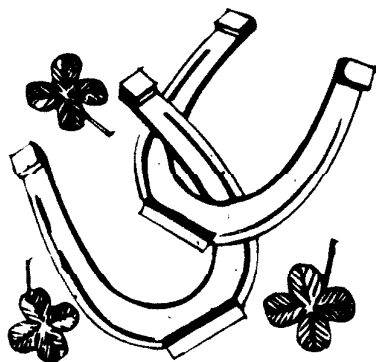
Voitures we need more PG's at the Spring Wreck. See about bringing some. Let the Grand Conducteur know.

In the past, small tax-exempt organizations generally were not required to file Forms 990 or 990-EZ, the annual information returns for tax-exempt organizations. But the Pension Protection Act of 2006 requires that tax-exempt organizations that normally have annual gross receipts of \$25,000 or less must file an electronic Form 990-N, "*Electronic Notice (e-Postcard) for Tax-Exempt Organizations not Required to File Form 990- or 990-EZ*," for tax years beginning in 2007. Go to the web site at <http://epostcard.form990.org/> to register and then file the 990-N

The IRS also has launched a disclosure site on IRS.gov where the public can view a particular organization's e-Postcard. This is located at web site: <http://www.irs.gov/app/ePostcard/>

NOTE: when you are filling out the Form 990-N, the Nationale organization usually comes up as the name. Put your locale organization name in the DBA.

Happy St. Patrick's Day & Happy Easter



GRANDE VOITURE DU MISSOURI

GRANDE SPRING WRECK AND CHEMINOT

March 28 through 30, 2008

Will be held at the
Holiday Inn
900 Corporate Parkway
Wentzville, MO 63385
Tel (636) 327-7001
Fax (636) 327-7019

Hotel rates are as follows:
\$72.00 For Single and Double Occupancy
\$72.00 For Triple and Quad Occupancy
Current Tax rate will apply

Make all reservations directly with the Hotel by **February 28, 2008**.
When you make reservations please mention that you are with the
40/8 Honor Society.

Friday March 28, 2008

Registration 3:00 til 5:00PM
Hospitality Room 3:00PM til ???

Saturday March 29, 2008

Registration 8:00AM til noon
Spring Wreck 9:00AM
Lunch 11:30AM
Cheminot will start at 1:00PM
Cocktails starting at 6:00PM
Banquet will start at 7:00PM
Hospitality Room opened after Banquet

Sunday March 30, 2008

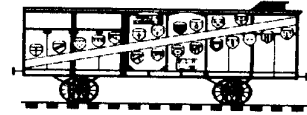
Donuts/Coffee 7:00 til 9:00AM

Make checks payable to Voiture 1541 and send to Leon Hill,
1011 Pegasus Circle, St. Peters, MO 63376

Last Name _____ First _____ Spouse _____

Voiture Number _____
Banquet per Person \$25.00 _____
Registration Fee \$10.00 _____
(Per Voyageur)

Choice of _____ Roast Top Sirloin Beef _____ Chicken Cordon Bleu



MEMBERSHIP GRAND VOITURE DU MISSOURI
as of February 29, 2008

LOCALE	2007	2008	PERCENT	Short/Over
3	130	102	78%	-28
38	156	143	91%	-13
130	32	30	93%	-2
292	61	57	93%	-4
293	15	12	80%	-3
333	83	83	100%	0
447	9	2	22%	-7
448	211	143	67%	-68
460	67	64	95%	-3
520	14	14	100%	0
760	90	83	92%	-7
848	14	15	107%	1
966	11	7	63%	-4
1292	69	62	89%	-7
1321	87	76	87%	-11
1379	32	32	100%	0
1395	20	21	105%	1
1402	44	38	86%	-6
1403	57	41	71%	-16
1541	65	66	101%	1
Totals	1,267	1,091	86%	-176

Grand Voiture du Missouri
Terry Lanning
Sous Grand Correspondant
2045 Granada Dr.
Florissant, MO 63033

